

# PEQUOT TRAILS

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY IN THE SPRING, SUMMER, FALL AND WINTER BY THE PEQUOT SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

Volume IV

Winter 1952-53

Number 4

## Our New Pond

The first step toward improving the water situation on the Sanctuary property is well underway. The major part of the digging for the new pond in the meadow has been completed. This has been made possible by those members who have contributed so generously to our recent appeal. The results of that appeal have been most gratifying and our appreciation and thanks are extended to everyone at this time. If you have not contributed toward this new pond and would like to do so, we have plans that will put every contributed dollar to work.

The object of this report is to keep our members informed concerning the pond's development. The word development is used because the pond, as we want it, cannot be realized overnight. The pond, when filled, will be approximately 3/4 of an acre in size. The fill removed was almost entirely of a clay texture. This accounts for the "white soil" now around the edges. This has both advantages The Christmas Star and disadvantages. The clay bottom will make a good retainer for water. However, the predominance of so much clay will require more work and climaxed by the joyousness, the hopes,

follows an orderly process. Step by is a time for renewal of the wonderful step the vegetation progresses from the story of the Babe in the Manger. To step the vegetation progresses from the lower plants, such as green scum, through the annual grasses and herbs to the perennial plants - the rushes, sedges, and perennial grasses. When water and soil conditions are favorable, this succession of plants may take place in 1 to 2 years, but sometimes 5 to 10 years pass before the final stages are reached. Our particular pond promises Many events once interpreted as miracle? reached. Our particular pond promises Many events once interpreted as mira- preserved as Point Lobos State Park. as possible.

Allan Cruickshank to Present



by Mary L. Duryea

a longer period of time to bring about the desired vegetation and appearance.

Natural development of vegetation Child. To some, the Christmas season

to be a compromise. By the use of fer-culous have since been explained in

## Next Screen Tour

"Santa Lucia Sea Cliffs" To be Sunday Matinee Feb. 1. Starting Time -3:00 P.M.

Allan D. Cruickshank, one of our country's most widely known wildlife photographers, will present the next Audubon Screen Tour in Buell Hall. It will be a special Sunday afternoon performance featuring his latest lecture and all-color motion picture "Santa Lucia Sea Cliffs."

'Santa Lucia Sea Cliffs" is the story of the wildlife and natural beauty found along the rugged California coast line between Morro Bay and Monterey. Here the Santa Lucia Mountains drop abruptly into the Pacific and for more than 100 miles extends a wild and rugged country set aside from the more civilized haunts of man. In magnificent color and in tense and vibrant action Mr. Cruickshank's camera brings to the screen over 50 species of birds of this area. Among them are eagles, both golden and bald, and peregrine falcons, gliding on currents above toweringrocky cliffs; Arctic loons, California murres, black brant, surf birds, long-billed curlews, and many others living along the turbulent shores.

This scenic tour of western beauty follows along, at the height of the flowering season, the world-famed Seventeen Mile Drive of Carmel and the Monterey Peninsula. It draws to a close amidst the spectacular wilds that excited the imagination of Robert Louis Stevenson when he visited there, now

Mr. Cruickshank is a favorite with tilizer, seeding, and mulching, we scientific terms. And in a certain local audiences. He has been one of hope to speed up this process as much sense, all physical phenomena are miraculous. Could the Star have been a since we initiated the programs five As soon as conditions are dry enough, bright meteor, such as the fireball, the next step will be to further grade which startled Seattle residents in May along with a fine lecture. Pleas next the next step will be to further grade which startled seattle residents in May along with a fine lecture. Plan now to (See CHRISTMAS P. 4) attend this outstanding program.

(See POND P. 4)

# Membership List November 30, 1952

cludes all active members as of November 30, 1952. Maywe suggest that you keep this list for future reference and Sanctuarywork. If your friends and neighbors are not on the list, why not Once each year we like to make a complete membership list available to all members. The following list inask them to join?

Abbott, Miss E. Mildred, New London Abrams, Mrs. Lucien, New London Aben, Mrs. Frank G., Norwich Ahr, Mrs. John, Westerly, R. I. Aller, Mrs. J. H., Westerly, R. I. Allen, Mrs. Carl D., Poquonnock

Bridge
Allen, Devere, Wilton
Allis, Mrs. Wallace S., Norwich
Allyn, Mrs. Ellery, Waterford
Allyn, Miss Matilda W., Groton
Anderson, Dr. and Mrs. Fred A., Norwich

Anderson, Mrs. Hale, North Stonington Anderson, Mr. Mrs. Jerome S., III, West Mystic Anderson, Mr. Mrs. Robert P., Noank Anderson, Frederick P., Noank Anderson, Robert P., Jr., Noank Anderson, Mr. Mrs. Theodore F., Stonington

Avery, Mrs. Christopher L., Groton Baker, Miss Helen T., New London. Baker, Miss Mary C., Hartford Baratz, Mrs. Moss, New London. Barker, Mrs. C. Starr, Westerly, R.I. Barckley, Mrs. Robert G., Milford, Pa. Barnum, Miss Alive, Groton. Barcon, Mrs. Henry G., Stonington Bascom, Mrs. Richard F., Stonington Bates, John L., Noank Bates, John L., Noank Bates, Mr. Mrs. Fondon. Bates, Mr. Mrs. John B., New London Baxter, Mr. Mrs. John B., New London Bergstrom, E. Alexander, West Hartford Bindloss, John B., Stonington Blackledge, Mrs. Winifred, Norwich-Arms, Guy T., New London Arnold, Vivian A., Westerly, R.I. Aust, Mrs. Otto E., Quaker Hill

Bolles, Mrs. Harry L., Westerly, R.I. Botsford, Miss E. Frances, New London Boylan, Miss Mary A., New London Blunt, Miss Katharine, New London Boy Scouts of America, Troop 24, Niantic . town

Briggs, Mrs. L. Goffe, Norwich Briggs, Mrs. Lucius, Norwich Briggs, Mr. Charles A., Mystic Brown, Allyn-L., Ir., Norwich Brown, Miss Bertha M., Westerly,R. I. Brown, Mrs. Cecil W., New London Bradley, M.,... Mystic Brand, Mr. Mrs. Allyn M., Norwich Bray, Miss Mildred H. Bretherton, Albert K., Waterford Vice Adm. and Mrs. Wilson, Stonington Brackman, Mrs. Robert, Noank Brown, Miss Elizabeth, Waterford

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Hampton

Eccleston, Mrs. Carolyn S., North East Lyme Garden Club, Niantic Stonington

Edgar, Grant E., New London Edgarly, Mrs. Webster, Trenton, N.J. Ely, Mrs. Anna Lloyd, Norwich Ely, Grosvenor, Weekapaug, R.I. Ely, G. Page, Old Lyme, Enders, Mr. Mrs. I.O., West Hartford English, Mrs. Robert B., Ir., Essex Erisman, Mrs. R.O., Mystic Eysenbach, Mrs. Earnest, Westerly,

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Hewitt, Brower, New Haven
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Newcomb, Miss Ruth W., New London

New London Garden Club, New Newton, Mrs. W.I., Quaker Hill New London Council, Girl Scouts, Inc., New London

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O'NeIII, John J., New London
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Wellington, Dr. H.W., New London Wheeler, Miss Bernice, New London Wheeler, Ralph Peres, North Stonington

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New London Woodhouse, Mrs. Chase Going, Baltic Woods, Mrs. Eunice G., Mystic Woodward, Mrs. Robert S., New Winter, Mrs. Frederick B., Stonington Wimpfheimer, Mr. Mrs. Clarence, Wood, Mr. Mrs. Charles B., III Stonington Stonington

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Wright, Mortimer D., Noank
York, Mrs. E. P., Stonington
Young, David K., Norwich
Young, Miss Edith E., Norwich
Zeiler, Fred R., Stonington

London

## Christmas (From P. 1)

of this year? A spectacular comet, caused by the perturbations on one of the giant planets could have been its origin. A remarkable planetary conjunction, or coming together in the same part of the sky occurs each 805 years. Kepler, the great German astronomer observed a conjunction of Jupiter, Saturn, and Mars in 1604. Several days later the famous Supernova was discovered and seen by Kepler the following week. A nova is not a new star but an old one which suddenly explodes, and may increase in brilliance many thousands of times in a day or two. After attaining a brilliance brighter than the full moon, the nova rapidly fades, becoming too faint to be observed with the naked eye. It was of Bethlehem might have been such a spectacular object.

the theories of the origin of the Star will be demonstrated on the Great Domes in a most fascinating manner. Unfortunately, the year of the birth of Jesus is not definitely known. A pitifully small reference of the Star itself is found in the Gospels in Matthew 2. Here the Star is mentioned only four times. Nowhere else in the Bible is the Star mentioned.

We must remember that the Star was seen only by the Wise Men. They were believers in astrology and well versed in the ancient prophecies pertaining to the coming of a King, whose birth was to be heralded by a sign in the Sky. They knew nothing of the exact science of astronomy such as we know it today. All celestial objects they observed were referred to as Stars. And so we can only conjecture of the true nature of the Christmas Star. Far more important than the explanation of the Star is the Kepler who first suggested that the Star Christmas story itself and the simple abiding truths it leaves in our hearts. May the Star shine forever as a symbol The great planetaria of our country of man's loftiest ideals. May its light will present this month the sky picture once more inspire an enduring peace at the time of the Nativity. Some of on earth to all men of good will,

## Pond (From P. 1)

and smooth the pond banks and edges. Once this is done the actual seeding and planting can be started. Weather conditions permitting, we plan to complete both these phases in the spring. Some trees and shrubs will also be planted this spring.

To the unknowing eye, the pond now looks like a huge clay pit. Actually, it is already beginning to fill with water - this in the midst of a drought. There's no doubt that we will have plenty of water by spring. Also, the pond is so located that additional water supplies are available if ever needed. A couple of minor engineering problems have developed. These have to do with drainage, etc., but cannot be solved until spring. Considering the time of year we had to start this project, everything is progressing nor-mally. The pond promises to be a great asset in the development of our Sanctuary property.



## CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS FROM OUR

## TRADING POST

NOTE: All items are mailable postpaid except the large feeders and the wild bird feed. Conn. residents add 2% sales tax.

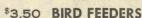




BIRD BOXES

BLUEBIRD TREE SWALLOW

WREN



WINDOW FEEDER Complete ready for mounting....\$10,00

GLASS WEATHER VANE FEEDER \$20.00 Complete with steel pole....



WILD BIRD FEED

Specially prepared for the birds of this area. No fillers - every grain edible....

\$.25

CHICKADEE FEEDER READY TO USE-

\$1.50 REFILLS PER DOZ. 3.50





**NOTE PAPER** 

WILD BIRDS BUTTERFLIES MOTHS

**FLOWERS** 

\$1.00 BIRD BOOKS

FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS

by Roger Tory Peterson ..... \$3.75

HANDBOOK OF ATTRACTING BIRDS

by Thomas P. McElroy, Jr..... \$3.00





Christmas Greetings

